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ADOT Launches I-10 Project in West Valley

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The Arizona Department of Transportation will break ground later this month on an \$80 million widening project on Interstate 10 in the west Valley.

The project will add two lanes in each direction between the Loop 101 and Cotton Lane. Work should be finished by late 2009.

“This is going to add two new lanes in each direction, using the median space,” said ADOT’s Doug Nintzel. “It will be a regular lane and a car-pool lane in each direction, and it’s going to make a significant difference in terms of the flow of traffic. Those additional lanes are going to make a big difference for drivers, not only into the downtown area, but also leaving the Valley heading west.”

ADOT will hold meetings on the planned project Tuesday night at Lattie Coor School in Avondale and Wednesday night at Desert Oasis School, 88th Avenue and McDowell, in Phoenix. The meetings will run from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

“This is about seven miles between the Loop 101 all the way out to Sarival,” Nintzel said. “If you’re in the Litchfield Road, Dysart Road area, this is the area that we’re talking about. It’s existing right now as three and two lanes.”

Another project in the Valley also is on the drawing boards.

“Starting about 2010, we also get the widening going between Sarival and Verado Way, with an additional lane in each direction,” Nintzel said.

Meanwhile, drivers in the north Valley will begin using detours today and Tuesday because of work on two ramps at the Interstate 17 interchange with the Carefree Highway.

Drivers will use two new circular ramps as detour routes for about a month while two existing ramps are reconstructed. ADOT said drivers should anticipate minor delays, particularly during the morning peak traffic hours.

The new Carefree Highway interchange project is expected to be finished this fall. The new interchange features standard diamond ramps but also will use the new loop ramps to reduce left turns for traffic exiting I-17 northbound and entering I-17 southbound.